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AN ACT

RELATING TO LICENSURE; ALLOWING EXPEDITED OCCUPATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING OF MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS, SPOUSES OR DOMESTIC PARTNERS OF MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS WHO ARE LICENSED IN ANOTHER JURISDICTION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. A new section of the Uniform Licensing Act is enacted to read:

"EXPEDITED LICENSURE--MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS AND SPOUSES OR DOMESTIC PARTNERS--VETERANS.--

A. A state agency, board or commission that issues an occupational or professional license pursuant to Chapter 61, Articles 2 through 34 NMSA 1978 shall, as soon as practicable after a military service member, the spouse or domestic partner of a military service member or a recent veteran files an application for a license accompanied by the required fees:

- (1) process the application; and
- (2) issue a license to a qualified applicant who submits satisfactory evidence that the applicant holds a license that is current and in good standing, issued by another jurisdiction, including a branch of the armed forces of the United States, that has met the minimal licensing requirements that are substantially equivalent to the

1 licensing requirements for the occupational or professional  
2 license the applicant applies for pursuant to Chapter 61,  
3 Articles 2 through 34 NMSA 1978.

4 B. A license issued pursuant to this section is  
5 not a provisional license and must confer the same rights,  
6 privileges and responsibilities as a license issued pursuant  
7 to Chapter 61, Articles 2 through 34 NMSA 1978.

8 C. A license issued pursuant to this section shall  
9 not be renewed unless the license holder satisfies the  
10 requirements for the issuance and for the renewal of a  
11 license pursuant to Chapter 61, Articles 2 through 34 NMSA  
12 1978. Upon the issuance of a license pursuant to this  
13 section, the issuing state agency, board or commission shall  
14 notify the license holder of the requirements for renewing  
15 the license in writing.

16 D. A state agency, board or commission that issues  
17 a license pursuant to Chapter 61 NMSA 1978 shall establish  
18 procedures necessary to implement this section by  
19 July 1, 2013, including rules for the renewal of licenses  
20 pursuant to Subsection C of this section.

21 E. This section applies only to an application for  
22 an occupational or professional license pursuant to  
23 Chapter 61 NMSA 1978 filed on or after July 1, 2013.

24 F. As used in this section:

25 (1) "military service member" means a person

1 who is serving in the armed forces of the United States or in  
2 an active reserve component of the armed forces of the United  
3 States, including the national guard; and

4 (2) "recent veteran" means a person who has  
5 received an honorable discharge or separation from military  
6 service within the two years immediately preceding the date  
7 the person applied for an occupational or professional  
8 license pursuant to this section."

9 SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the  
10 provisions of this act is July 1, 2013. \_\_\_\_\_

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